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PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 6148.0026-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Richard D. Bucholz et al.

Serial No.: Unassigned [Divisional  
of 09/105,068]

Prior Group Art Unit: 3737

Filed: Herewith

Prior Examiner: E. Mantis Mercader

For: SURGICAL NAVIGATION  
SYSTEMS INCLUDING  
REFERENCE AND  
LOCALIZATION FRAMES

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the  
application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1 - 55 without prejudice or disclaimer and add new claims  
56-63, as follows:

1 -56. A method for determining the geometry of a semi-rigid body element  
during a procedure, the method using an image data set having reference points for the  
body element, the method comprising: